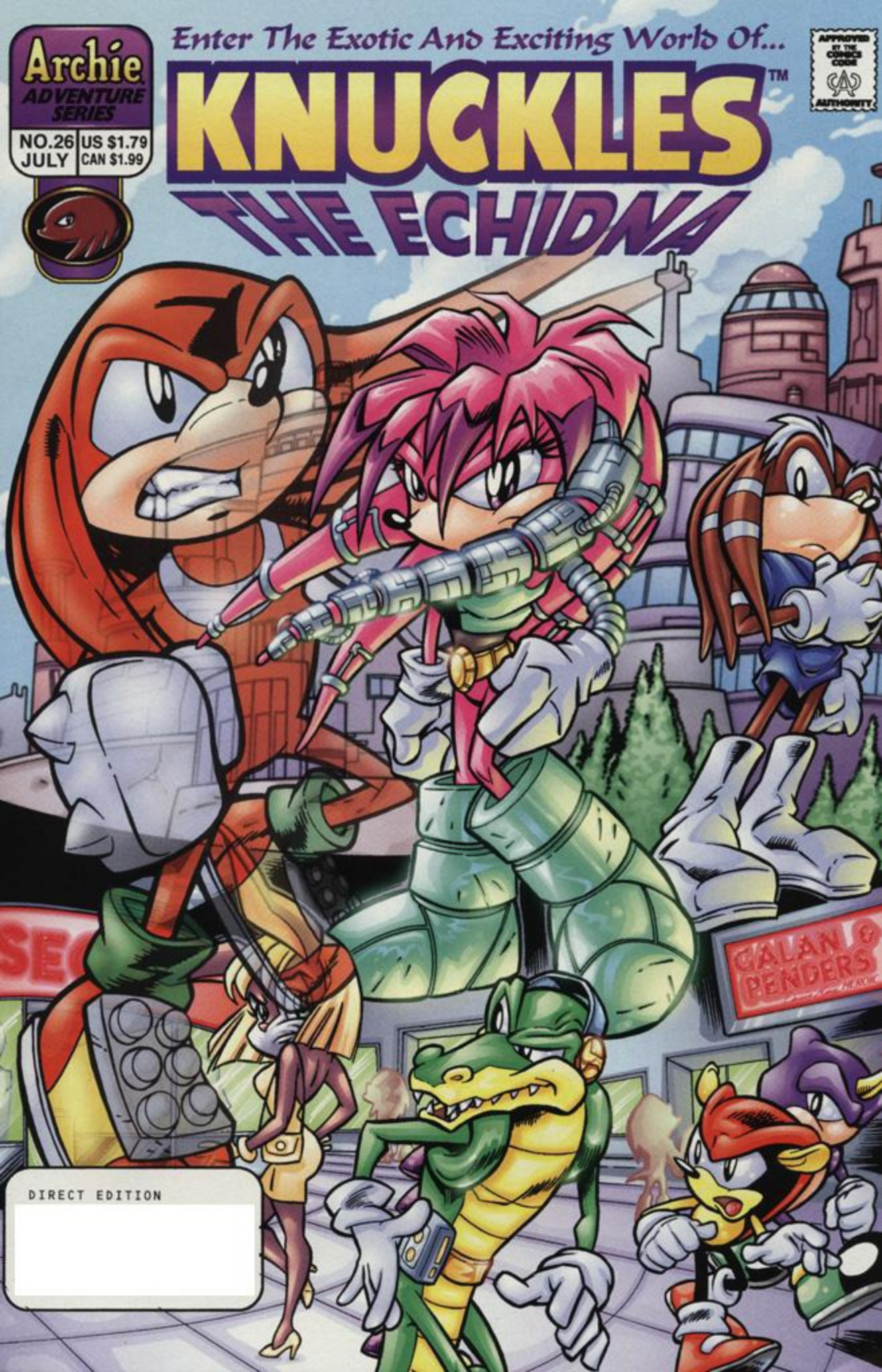
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THE FIRST DATE

PART ONE OF THREE

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BORN TO THE MOST NOBLE OF ECHIDNA HOUSES, THE LATEST TO CONTINUE THE FAMILY HERITAGE AND RESPONSIBILITY AS GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND, DEFENDER OF ALL AGAINST THE FORCES OF EVIL FROM THE WORLD BEYOND AS WELL AS THOSE WHO WOULD THREATEN FROM WITHIN!

ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!

COME THE SPRINGTIME, WHEN FLOWERS BLOOM, BIRDS CHIRP AND BEES PRODUCE HONEY, WE FIND ONLY TWO TYPES OF CREATURES: THOSE IN LOVE AND THOSE WHO WISH TO THEY WERE IN LOVE. AND FOR THOSE NOT ENGAGED IN THE MORE PLEASURABLE PURSUITS, WE FIND THEM GATHERING TOGETHER TO DISCUSS THE MEANING OF LIFE AND ALL IT HAS TO OFFER IN ALL ITS VARIOUS AND ENDLESS PERMUTATIONS...

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HARD TO BELIEVE THE CHARMSMAN IS STILL GONE!

I FIGURED HE'D COME`ROUND WAAAY BEFORE THIS!

TIMES HAVE CHANGED, VECTOR!

CHARMY GREW UP!

IT'S NOT LIKE HE HAD A CHOICE, ESPY!

MAGIC WOK

EAT THIS

SURE, HE DID!

HE COULD'VE RENOUNCED HIS HERITAGE!

HAH!

GIVE UP THE STATUS-- THE FAMILY MOOLAH-- BEST SEATS IN THE HOUSE-- AND THE BABES?!!

NO WAY, JOSE!

HIS RESPONSIBILITIES OUTWEIGH ALL OF THAT!

BESIDES, HE'S NOW BETROTHED!

WHAAAT?!!

WHERE DID YOU HEAR THIS?

YOU HOLDING OUT ON US?

C'MON, ESPY!

GIVE IT TO US STRAIGHT!

ALL RIGHT ALREADY! I RECEIVED A LETTER ANNOUNCING CHARMY'S ENGAGEMENT TO A GIRL NAMED SAFRON!

ENGAGED? AS IN--

Y'MEAN-- Y'MEAN--

I THINK I'LL HURL!

RELAX, VECTOR!

BESIDES, DIDN'T YOU JUST LIST "BABES" AS A REASON NOT TO GIVE UP HIS CROWN?

I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT MARRIAGE!

CHICKS, MAN-- --NOTHIN' BUT BAAAAD NEWS!

C'MON, VECTOR!

IT HAPPENS TO EVERYONE EVENTUALLY!

LOOK AT THE BRIGHT SIDE, VECTOR! WHAT GIRL WOULD WANT YOU ANYWAY?

Y'GOT THAT BACKWARDS, MIGHTY MAN-- --WHAT GIRL COULD HANDLE ME?

OH, I COULD THINK OF AT LEAST ONE!

WHO? THE WITCH?!

IN YOUR DREAMS!

JULIE-SU WOULD BE MORE THAN YOUR MATCH!

NO KIDDING! ONLY--

"-- SHE'S GOT HER SIGHTS AIMED AT KNUCKLES! "

RUN OUT ON ME, WILLYA!!!!*

BIIIIG MISTAKE!!

SHE LOVES YOU...

(and you know that can't be bad!)

* JULIE-SU IS REFERRING TO THE ABRUPT WAY KNUCKLES LEFT HER AT THE BEGINNING OF LAST ISSUE -- JUSTIN.

BLAM!

WHAT'S THE *MATTER* WITH YOU?

DON'T YOU *CARE*?

ABOUT *US*? ABOUT *ANYTHING*?

OH, THIS IS *BAD*!

I'M EVEN TALKING TO *MUTILATED PICTURES* NOW!

I NEED A *LIFE*!

THE PROBLEM IS--

--WHERE DO YOU GET ONE--

--WHEN *ALL* YOU THINK ABOUT IS *HIM*?

I *HATE* YOU, KNUCKLES--

"--FOR NOT BEING HERE TO TALK WITH ME RIGHT NOW!"

WELL, WELL, WELL! LOOK WHAT THE CAT DRAGGED IN!

HERE! HAVE SOME BREAKFAST!

THANKS! I'M STARVING!

PAN CAKES!

YOU OKAY, SON?

YOU LOOK LIKE SOMETHING'S ON YOUR MIND!

I WAS WONDERING ABOUT WHY BOYS AND GIRLS GET TOGETHER!

SPLOOSH!

Umm--uhh-- WHY DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

IT'S JULIE-SU, DAD!

I FEEL *WEIRD* WHENEVER I'M WITH *HER*!

WEIRD?

YEAH! LIKE I'M *HAPPY* AND *MAD* AT THE *SAME* TIME!

AND WHEN I THINK *SHE'S* ANGRY, SHE WANTS TO BE *FRIENDS*!

HOW'S IT *DIFFERENT* WHEN YOU'RE WITH *OTHER* FRIENDS?

WE GET ALONG *GREAT*!

SURE, *VECTOR* CAN BE A *PAIN* AT TIMES--

--BUT HE'S *OKAY* MOST OF THE TIME!

ARE YOU *FRIENDS* WITH OTHER *GIRLS*?

I DON'T EVEN *THINK* ABOUT OTHER GIRLS, DAD!

UH-HUH...

SOUNDS TO ME YOU'VE BEEN *STRUCK* BY THE SOULTOUCH!

SOULTOUCH?

WHAT'S *THAT*?

WE *ECHIDNAS* TEND TO DEVELOP OUR *INTELLECTUAL* SIDE MORE SO THAN ANY OTHER, SO IT'S NATURE'S WAY OF *BALANCING* THE SCALES!

HUH?

NATURE HAS PROVIDED A MEANS FOR US TO RECOGNIZE OUR *LIFE PARTNER* FROM THE OPPOSITE SEX.

THAT MEANS BOTH THE BOY AND THE GIRL ARE *COMPATIBLE*, RIGHT?

IT *USUALLY* WORKS THAT WAY, YES!

THEN WHAT HAPPENED TO *YOU* AND *MOM*?

GOOD QUESTION!

I'VE OFTEN *WONDERED* THAT ONE MYSELF!

I GUESS EVEN THE *BEST* OF RELATIONSHIPS REQUIRE A LOT OF *WORK*!

I GET ALONG *GREAT* WITH THE *GUYS*!

IT'S *JULIE-SU* I HAVE MY *PROBLEMS* WITH!

WOULDN'T IT BE *EASIER*--

--IF GUYS HUNG AROUND WITH *GUYS* AND GIRLS STUCK TO *THEMSELVES*?

PROBABLY, BUT EVENTUALLY THEY WOULD WANT SOMETHING *MORE*!

MORE?

WHY DON'T WE FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS FOR JULIE-SU *BEFORE* DISCUSSING ANYTHING MORE?

"I SUPPOSE, BUT WHAT *MORE* COULD THERE BE?"

Y'KNOW, VECTOR, I THINK YOU'RE ALL *MOUTH* WHEN IT COMES TO *GIRLS*!

SEZ YOU!

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO *TALKS* ABOUT THEM *ALL* THE TIME!

THIS CROC *DOES* MORE THAN *JUST* TALK!

ALL RIGHT, MISTER BIG MOUTH--

LET'S PUT UP OR *SHUT* UP!

WADDYA RAPPIN' ABOUT?

YOU *SAY* YOU'RE *HOT* STUFF--

-- SO LET'S *SEE* YOU ASK OUT A GIRL--*ANY* GIRL WITHIN EYESIGHT-- TO GO OUT ON A *DATE* WITH YOU!

HUH?

YOU *HEARD* ME!

OR ARE YOU REALLY JUST ANOTHER--

WAIT *HERE*!

WATCH AND *LEARN* FROM *THE MAN*!

--AND BARRIE IS THROWING THIS WAY-OUT *PARTY* THIS COMING *SATURDAY*! WANNA COME?

I'D *LOVE* TO! WHERE'S IT GOING TO BE?

AT BARRIE'S *PAD* ACROSS FROM THE *COMMONS*!

SAY HEY! THEY WERE BOTH *HOT*!

WITHOUT A *PARTNER* FOR THE OTHER, EITHER IS A *NO GO*, THOUGH!

DEFINITELY *NOT* FOR THIS BOY!

Hmmm...

BABY HAS *POTENTIAL*!

OH, YEAH!

ONE HOT MAMA!!

SAY, BABE--

DOING ANYTHING THIS WEEKEND?

I'M STUDYING TO BECOME A *MISSIONARY*!

HOW ABOUT GOING OUT THE *FOLLOWING* WEEKEND *INSTEAD*?

"YOU'LL BE THE ONE MISSING OUT, BABE!"

YEEUCHH!

I'M DEFINITELY HAVING A BAD HAIR DAY!

THAT'S IT!

I HAVE TO GET OUT!

I'M STARTING TO SOUND AS SHALLOW AS SOME OF THE DITZES I RUN INTO.

PERHAPS A SELF-IMPROVEMENT COURSE WOULD HELP!

IF ONLY I KNEW WHAT I WANTED TO IMPROVE!

MAYBE I'M JUST NOT HAVING ENOUGH FUN IN MY LIFE!

EVERYTHING HAS BEEN A SERIOUS MATTER AS FAR AS I CAN RECALL!

WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT ON?

HUH?

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

I SAID IT'D BE A LOT *EASIER* TO TRY IT ON IF YOU WENT *INSIDE*!

DON'T YOU *THINK*?

I DON'T KNOW! I MEAN--

CAN'T *DECIDE* WHAT YOU WANT?

WE AT *FOOFI'S* ARE HERE TO *SERVE*!

THE *LADY* WAS INTERESTED IN TRYING ON THAT *FINE HAT* YOU HAVE ON DISPLAY IN THE WINDOW!

AN *EXQUISITE* CHOICE! IT'S ONE OF OUR *FINEST*!

AND IT'S SO *YOU*!

DO YOU *REALLY* THINK SO?

I FEEL SO-- *SILLY*!

NONSENSE! IT GIVES YOU A SENSE OF *STYLE*!

NOW, IF YOU'VE *NOTHING* MORE *IMPORTANT* TO DO--

"--WOULD YOU CARE TO JOIN ME FOR *LUNCH*?"

TAP... TAP... TAP...

ARGHY!

BAMF!

AH, *THERE* YOU ARE!

I WANTED TO SEE HOW YOU WERE DOING, LAD!

SINCE YOUR FATHER IS PERFORMING HIS *MORNING ROUTINE*, I THOUGHT *NOW* WOULD BE AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY!

THAT'S JUST IT! I DON'T KNOW HOW I'M DOING!

ON THE ONE HAND, I'M *HAPPY* TO BE WITH *DAD*!

ON THE OTHER, I KEEP THINKING OF *JULIE-SU*!

IN *LOVE*, ARE WE?

MY BOY, THERE ARE *NO* SUCH THINGS AS *EASY* ANSWERS!

HAVE YOU *DISCUSSED* THIS WITH *LOCKE*?

YEAH, BUT I DON'T THINK HE WAS TOO *THRILLED* ABOUT IT!

THAT'S ONLY *NATURAL*!

WHAT PARENT *ENJOYS* TALKING ABOUT MATTERS THAT DEAL WITH *GROWING UP*?

HEY! EVERYBODY! SONIC KIDS ARE BACK!

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KNOW YOUR HEROES! "THE ORIGIN OF THE JAGUAR"

BY: PAUL CASTIGLIA & KEN PENDERS

DEEP IN EXOTIC LANDS, FAMED ZOOLOGIST *RALPH HARDY* WAS HAVING A BLAST ON A LIVELY ARCHEOLOGICAL DIG...

I DON'T KNOW WHY HOLLYWOOD KEEPS MAKING ALL THOSE *KILLER DINOSAUR* MOVIES--

THESE GUYS DON'T *SCARE* ME A BIT!

YEAH -- IT'S *AMAZING* HOW THEY MELLOW WITH AGE!

THE DIG GOT EVEN *LIVELIER* LITERALLY-- WHEN A GIANT *ROAR* AND THE SOUND OF *THUNDEROUS FOOTSTEPS* FILLED THE AIR!

WHAT WERE YOU SAYING ABOUT *MELLOW?*

ALL I KNOW IS IT *RHYMES* WITH *"YELLOW"*-- SO LET'S *HIGH-TAIL* IT OUT OF HERE, *QUICK!* TO THE TEMPLE!

ONCE INSIDE THE TEMPLE, THE NATURALLY CURIOUS *RALPH* WANDERS AWAY FROM THE OTHERS, INTO A NARROW CORRIDOR...

THESE *HIEROGLYPHICS* -- THEY SHOW THE MONSTER TERRORIZING THE *INCAS!* SOMEHOW IT'S *SURVIVED* ALL THESE YEARS!

RALPH HEARS A *"CLINK"* BENEATH HIS FEET, AND DISCOVERS A STRANGE *BELT* WITH AN ANCIENT INSCRIPTION ON ITS *BUCKLE*...

THE INSCRIPTION READS: "HE WHO LOVES THE *ANIMAL KINGDOM* MAY WEAR THIS BELT AND BE TRANSFORMED INTO A HUMAN *JAGUAR!*"

HAH! I LOVE ANCIENT *SUPERSTITIONS!* OH WELL, IT WILL GO WELL WITH MY OUTFIT!

BUT *RALPH HARDY* LEARNED THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SUPERSTITION AND *DESTINY* THAT DAY, AS HE WAS ACTUALLY *TRANSFORMED* INTO A SUPERHUMAN BEING! HE RESCUED HIS FRIENDS FROM THE OMINOUS SERPENT, AND WENT ON TO *FIGHT* THE *EVILS* OF THE WORLD -- WITH THE *SAVAGE SPIRIT* OF A *JAGUAR!*

I HAVE BEEN CALLED TO USE THESE *MAGNIFICENT POWERS* TO *PROTECT* ALL OF NATURE'S *INNOCENT CREATURES!*

I'LL START BY *ELIMINATING* ONE OF ITS *DEADLIEST!*

PARENTS *PREFER* THEIR CHILDREN TO *STAY* CHILDREN SO THEY CAN *PROTECT* THEM FROM LIFE'S *HARSH* REALITIES!

AND *LOVE* CAN BE ONE OF THE *HARSHEST* TO DEAL WITH!

SO *WHAT* DO I *DO*?

MY BOY, IF YOU *RECOGNIZE* EVERYTHING IN LIFE HAS *CONSEQUENCES* AND ARE *PREPARED* TO *DEAL* WITH THEM--

--YOU MAKE *CHOICES* AND *LIVE* WITH THEM!

HERE'S *HOPING* I CAN *EXPLAIN* THIS ONE TO MY DAD *LATER*!

LET'S GO!

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, KNUCKLES--

--YOUR *FATHER* WAS *YOUNG* ONCE AS WELL...

BAM!

KNUCKLES?

"NOW WHERE DID THAT BOY MAKE OFF TO?"

THIS IS NOT COOL!

IF I DON'T SCORE I'LL NEVER HEAR THE END OF IT FROM ESPY!

FOOD

HUH?

I WAS ASKING IF YOU WANTED ANYTHING!

DEPENDS WHAT'S ON THE MENU!

THE SPECIAL OF THE DAY IS MILKWEED TOFU!

IF YOU CAN'T MAKE UP YOUR MIND, GET BACK TO ME AFTER YOU FIGURE IT OUT!

SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN!

OH, YEAH--

"--WHAT DO YOU HAVE FOR *DESSERT*?"

BISTRO

SO TELL ME, JULIE-SU, IS THERE ANYONE *SPECIAL* IN YOUR LIFE AT THE *MOMENT*?

THAT'S A *TOUGH* ONE, RAYNOR!

I WISH I KNEW!

TALK ABOUT POOR TIMING... *TO BE CONTINUED!*

MIGHTY THE ARMADILLO

in: Friend In Need

WHAT BEGINS AS A ROUTINE DAY ABRUPTLY CHANGES UPON THE ARRIVAL OF A VISITOR AT MIGHTY'S DEN, LOCATED AT ROCKY HILL ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE FLOATING ISLAND...

BOY, DOES THIS EVER BRING BACK *MEMORIES*!

I THOUGHT IT *WOULD*--THAT'S *WHY* I SOUGHT YOU OUT!

SO WHAT DO YOU *NEED* ME FOR IF YOU KNOW *WHAT* THIS IS?!

WRITER: KEN PENDERS
PENCILER: MANNY GALAN
INKER: ANDREW PEPOY
COLORIST: BARRY GROSSMAN
LETTERER: VICKIE WILLIAMS
EDITOR: J.F. GABRIE

SIMPLE! I NEED YOU FOR YOUR *MUSCLE*!

IT DOESN'T TELL ME *WHY* I SHOULD *GO* WITH YOU!

SINCE YOU NEED *CONVINCING*--

--IS THIS *REASON* ENOUGH?

WHAT THE--?!?

THAT COLLAR BELONGS TO RAY THE SQUIRREL!!

BUT HOW--?!!

UH-UH! NOT UNTIL I KNOW IF YOU'RE IN OR OUT!

HAVE I ANY CHOICE?

SMART MAN! YOU WON'T REGRET IT, OR MY NAME ISN'T--

FLING

NIC THE WEASEL

YOU MEAN NACK THE WEASEL, DON'T YOU?

NO, I'M HIS SISTER!

I PREFER "NIC"--

--AS "NICOLETTE" JUST DOESN'T SOUND TOUGH ENOUGH FOR A BOUNTY HUNTER!

WOULDN'T YOU AGREE?

WELL, I--

AND DON'T ASK "WHAT'S A NICE GIRL LIKE YOU--!"

C'MON!

"TIME'S A'WASTIN'!"

THIS IS *SOME* CRAFT!

WHERE DID YOU *GET* IT?

I BOUGHT IT AT THE *FIVE AND GEMSTONE*!

DOES IT REALLY *MATTER*?

I GUESS NOT!

WHY SHOULD I *CARE* ABOUT ANYTHING, REALLY--?

--EXCEPT THE *CHANCE* TO *HELP* RAY ANY WAY I CAN!

IT WAS ABOUT SIX OR SEVEN YEARS *AGO* BUT IT SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY WHEN WE WERE *CAUGHT* AND TAKEN TO THE *SLAVE LABOR CAMP*...

"I REMEMBER SEEING RAY FOR THE *FIRST* TIME, *SHAKING* LIKE A LEAF, BUT THAT DIDN'T STOP HIM FROM SHOWING *CONSIDERATION* FOR *OTHERS*..."

H-H-HERE! H-H-HAVE M-M-MY S-S-SEAT!

HEY, LITTLE FELLER, TAKE IT EASY!

I-I-I'M *T-T-TRYING* T-T-TO!

NO REASON FOR *FEAR*--

--`CAUSE THE *HEDGEHOG* IS HERE!

SORRY IF I'M *NOT* IMPRESSED--

--AS I DON'T HAVE THE FAINTEST IDEA WHO *YOU* ARE!

IT'S *OKAY* IF YOU'RE *CLUELESS* NOW, PAL--

--BUT YOU *WON'T* BE ONCE I GET *JUICIN'*!

IS THAT A *FACT*?

IF YOU'RE *SO SPECIAL*, HOW COME *ROBOTNIK* HASN'T TAKEN SPECIAL *PRECAUTIONS* WITH *YOU* LIKE HE DID WITH *ME*?

OL' ROBO-BUTT HAS PROBABLY *FORGOTTEN* ALL ABOUT ME!

OUR *ELDERS* HAVE BEEN CARRYING THE *FIGHT* UNTIL RECENTLY!

WITH THE *LOSSES* MOUNTING UP, WE FIGURED IT WAS TIME FOR THE *YOUNGER FREEDOM FIGHTERS* TO DO THEIR PART, INCLUDING ME--

--NONE OTHER THAN TRUE BLUE--

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

W-W-WAIT A-A-A M-M-MINUTE! I-I-I D-D-DON'T R-R-RECALL Y-Y-YOU B-B-BEING C-C-CAPTURED A-A-ALONG W-W-WITH US!

I WASN'T!

SAY! THEN THAT MEANS--

--THAT'S MY CUE TO SCOPE THINGS OUT!

--YOU GOT IT!

I'M THE SECRET AGENT MAN BEING SENT BEHIND ENEMY LINES!

ONCE WE GET TO WHERE WE'RE GOING--

WAIT! WHAT ABOUT EVERYONE HERE?

YOU'D ONLY CRAMP MY STYLE! I'LL BE BACK LATER!

I THOUGHT HE WAS A REAL PAIN IN THE TUSH-- BUT HE DID COME BACK--AND THAT'S WHEN THINGS STARTED GETTING REALLY HAIRY...

YOU'VE BEEN REAL QUIET ALL DURING THE TRIP, MIGHTY!

IS ANYTHING WRONG?

NO! NOTHING AT ALL!

I WAS JUST *THINKING*!

FORTUNATELY, IT'S NOT YOUR *BRAIN CELLS* I NEED UP TO SPEED--

-- ONLY YOUR *BRAWN*!

READY TO LIVE UP TO *YOUR* PART OF THE *BARGAIN*?

YEAH--BUT ANY *SIGN* THINGS *AREN'T* ON THE UP-AND-UP--

-- AND WE MIGHT HAVE TO *RENEGOTIATE*!

BOY, DOES THIS PLACE LOOK *SPOOKIER* THAN THE LAST TIME I WAS HERE!

THE NATIVES AREN'T *FRIENDLY* IN THESE PARTS!

THAT'S ANOTHER REASON YOU'RE WITH ME!

HOLD IT! SOMEONE IS *COMING*!

IT'S ONLY--

FIONA

YOU'RE--

--ALIVE?

NO THANKS TO YOU OR YOUR *FRIENDS*!

COME TO MAKE *AMENDS*, MIGHTY?

NEXT: LONG FORGOTTEN SECRETS AND OTHER BURIED TREASURES!

FISTFUL OF LETTERS

GREAT GRANDFATHER ATHAIR! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I'M COMMUTING WITH THE ANCIENT WALKERS!
}CHUCKLE{ YOU MEAN "COMMUNING" WITH THEM...
DON'T TALK BACK TO YOUR ELDERS, SONNY BOY!
C'MON! I'M LATE FOR A MEETING!
HEY! I ORDERED MY COFFEE WITH CREAM!
I GOTTA GET THIS OLD HEAP TUNED UP!
CHUG CHUG...
K-POW

OFF PANEL **by Gallagher, Manak & Harvo**

THIS JUST IN!

On Tuesday, March 16, 1999 at precisely 2:00pm, Jacen Casey Galán was born. He weighed in at 8½ pounds and measured in at a whopping 21 inches. Let's give the proud (and now extremely tired) parents, Manny and Erika Galán, our heartiest congratulations, Guardian-style!

On another note: Saturday, June 5, 1999, Andrew Pepoy and Pam Eklund will be doing a Sonic & Knuckles signing at Graham Crackers Comics in the suberbs of Chicago, Il. If you're in the area, look out for them at 1271 Rickert Drive in Naperville from 11am to 1pm, at 1207 East Butterfield Road in Wheaton from 1:30pm to 3pm, and at 108 East Main Street in St. Charles from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

J.F. GABRIE
Editor / Art Director

Catch you on the flip side!

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Note: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited. Thanks for understanding!

Re: KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #22

Dear Knuckles.

I just got issue #22 and I was just wondering. on page 22 there are three guys there. I know who the one in the front is. but who are the others? I would also like to know Knuckles' relatives from Hawking to Edmund. And lastly. are Espio and Valdez related? Well that's it.

Ryan Meehan
Convent Station. NJ

The other two were the robot candidate. Benedict and the cyborg Dark Legionaire. Xenin. There was more on Knux.s relatives in Knuckles #25 and there will be more to come. More on the Espio & Valdez connection in an upcoming story.

Konnichiwa Knuckles-sama!

Here is a major subject of question: Should Knuckles and Julie-Su be a couple? Personally. I say yes. Knux needs a good female companion at his side. A word to Vector concerning Julie-Su: Get over it! She's proven herself loyal already! Some people! On another subject: What color is Grandfather Spectre? Is he red like most other echidnas or is he black? I can't really tell. Oh. and I think Bunnie and Knuckles should have a crossover miniseries or special together. They are both my all-time favorite characters in both comics. I must congratulate you on the awesome story line! It is much more serious than the Sonic comics. Till next issue! Sayonara!

Sarabeth
"Bunnie-chan" Collins
(age 14)
Garrison. TX

Uh. oh -- Sarabeth is starting a discussion pool. Anybody care to agree or disagree with her? Spectre's red. The black are the shadows from his cowl. Check out Bunnie in a solo story in Sonic Super special #11.

Dear Knuckles.

How's it going. Rad Red? I'm doing pretty cool here! How are the Chaotix? Well. hope they're doing good. What's the deal with Julie-Su? Is she your new best friend? I obviously don't like her. Plus. my theory is that they got rid of Charmy just to make room for her! Okay. back to business. Two questions: 1) So what's up with the Dingoes? Are they mad at the echidnas for something? 2) Is that woman Julie-Su's mother? If she is. she should talk Julie-Su into coming back! Stay cool. Raddy!

Toni Ferraro
Aston. PA

The Chaotix are having their own back-up features starting with this issue. 1) The Dingoes and Echidnas have never seen eye to eye on things for as long as they can remember. 2) More on the mysterious female echidna in a Julie-Su solo story in Sonic Super Special #11.

Dear Knuckles.

I loved Knuckles #22!!! The artwork was great and Dimitri has reappeared. I have a couple of questions though: 1) Where did Tobor and Kragok go? 2) Will he ever come back? 3) Would you marry Julie-Su in Knuckles #100? Or some other big number? 4) How did Dimitri stay alive before he became a cyborg? Oh and also: I LOVE the artwork of Spaz. Harvo and Penders! They are soooooooo good which makes the covers (or anything else for that matter) look SUPER GROOVY!!! Keep up the good work.

wallsx@erinet.com

Jim & Harvo give their thanks on the art compliment. 1&2) A mystery to be answered another time. 3) Time will tell. 4) The Dark Legion made him a cyborg to keep him alive. They almost didn't make it in time.

Well, that's it for this month. Thank you all for your comments. See you in thirty. And remember...

KEEP COOL!

Cover by Patrick Spaziante and Ken Penders. Colors and separations by Darrin Moore and Heroic Age.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

In one week: "The Truth Is Out There" When Robotnik's satellites link together to form a mega-sized space base, Sonic and the Freedom Fighters are set to investigate. That is, if they can get off the ground-- for just as they are about to leave, they receive a distress signal! Story by Karl Bollers with art by Steven Butler and Pam Eklund. Also: "Tales of the Great War, Pt. 2." By Ken Penders, Art Mawhinney and Jim Amash!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #73 on sale late May 1999!

Next Month: He's faced some of the most dangerous villains the Floating Island has ever seen, but can even Knuckles surmount the hardest task he's ever faced: figuring out how to ask Julie-Su out on a date? It's the most heart-wrenching, gut-churning chapter yet in the life of everyone's favorite (lovesick) echidna! Story by Ken Penders with art by Chris Allan and Andrew Pepoy! Also, Part 2 of the Mighty solo story by Penders,Galán and Pepoy.

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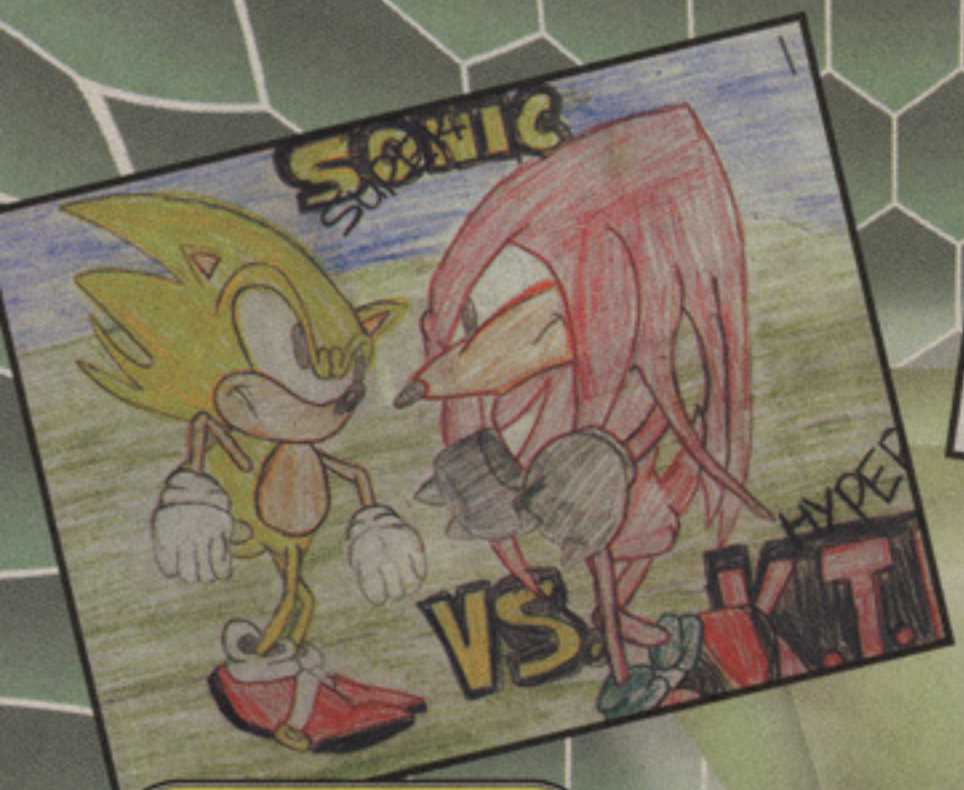
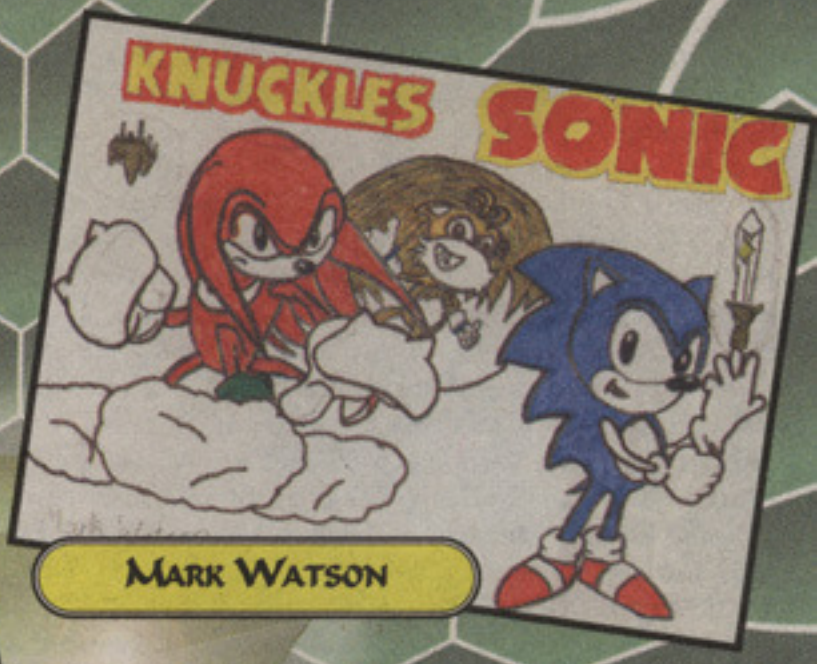
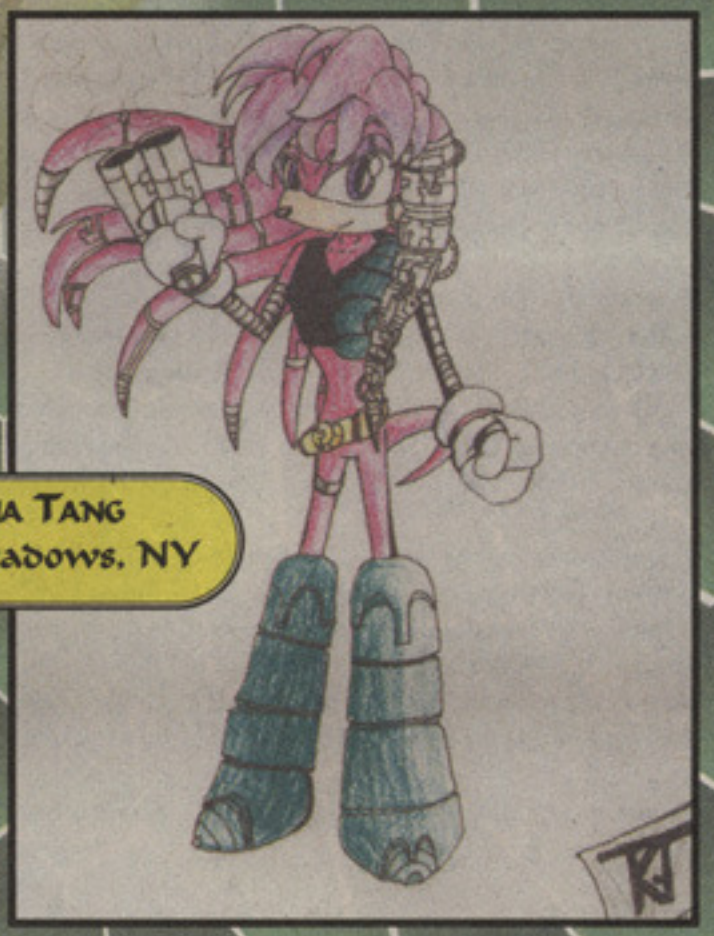




MARK WATSON

JOSH BRIDGES
(age 9)
U.S.Navy PSC
Yokosuka, JAPAN



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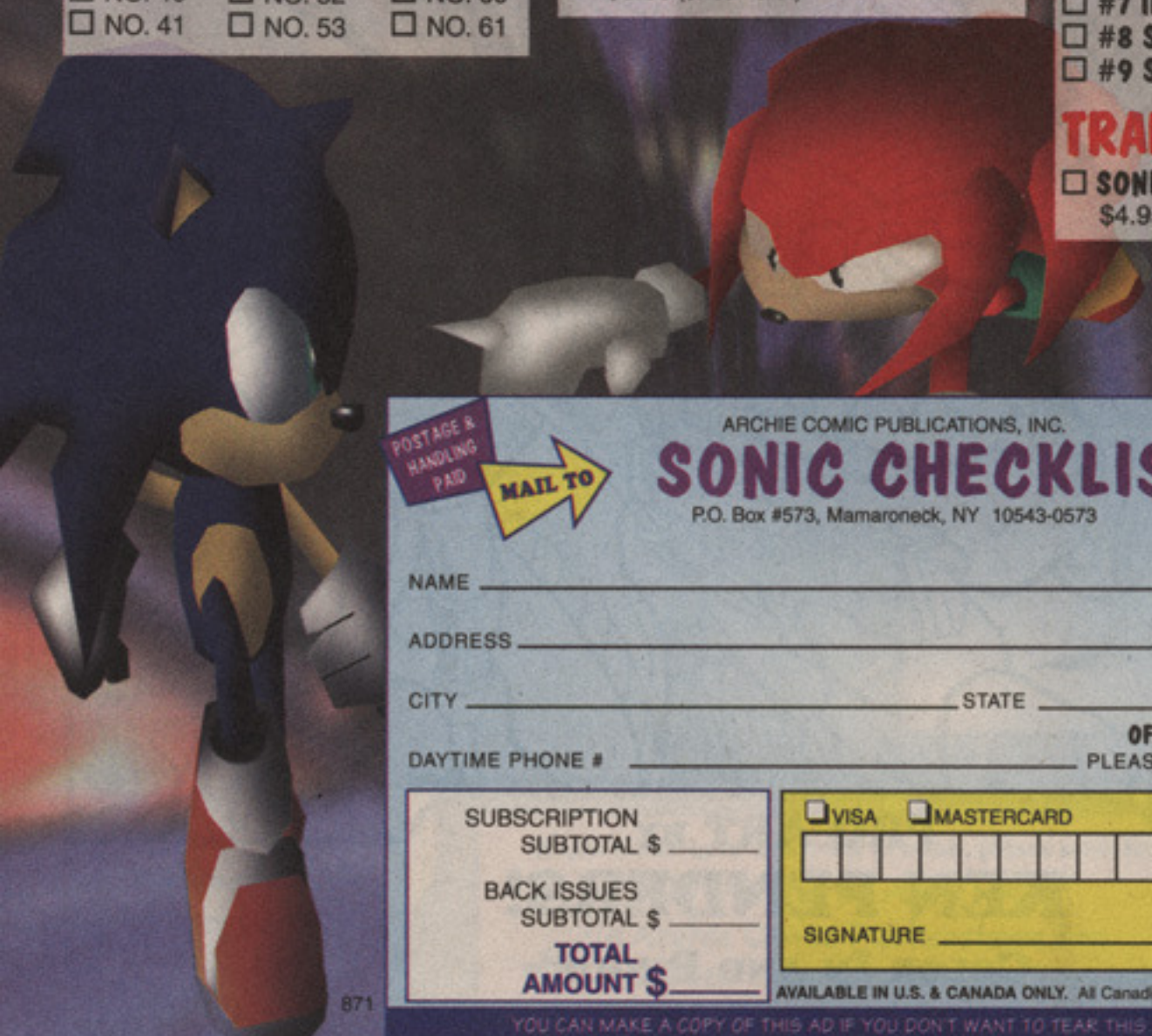

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